

Attorney Docket No. MP/143

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Walter
 Appl. No. : 09/369,231
 Filed : August 5, 1999
 Title : Surface Modified Expanded
 Polytetrafluoroethylene Devices and
 Methods of Producing the Same
 Group Art Unit: 1771
 Examiner : H. Vo

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
 facsimile transmitted to the Patent and
 Trademark Office on October 11, 2001*

Melanee Williams
 Melanee Williams

Oct. 11, 2001
 (date of transmittal of document)

Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF APRIL 11, 2001

Official

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action, mailed April 11, 2001, for the above-referenced application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 4 and 10 to read as follows:

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GROUP 1700

1. (amended) A material comprising:

a surface comprising PTFE having a node and fibril microstructure;

the surface having a number of node clusters, said node clusters comprising

multiple nodes interconnected by fibrils, and gnarled nodes situated between the node clusters; and

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said gnarled nodes having a protruding length and being substantially devoid of fibrils along the protruding length.

2. (amended) A material comprising:

a surface comprising PTFE having a node and fibril microstructure;

said surface comprising a textured pattern having multiple ridges and valley surfaces, the ridges comprised of node clusters;

said node clusters comprising multiple nodes interconnected by fibrils;

the valley surfaces having gnarled nodes protruding therefrom; and

said gnarled nodes having a protruding length and being substantially devoid of fibrils along the protruding length.

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